

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) Interface for a lamp operating device ~~(13)~~, ~~having~~
comprising,

[-] at least one input-side terminal [(1, 2)] for the connection of bus
lines or for connection with a button or switch,

[-] an evaluation logic [(3)] for the processing of signals present at the
input-side terminal [(1, 2)] and for the generation of output-side signals for the control of the
lamp operating device [(3)], and

[-] at least one electrical isolation element ~~(4)~~, ~~in order~~ adapted to
electrically decouple the input-side terminal [(1, 2)] from the lamp operating device [(13)],

wherein the evaluation logic [(3)] is arranged on ~~[[that]]~~ a side of the
electrical isolation element ~~(4) which is~~ towards the at least one input-side terminal [(1, 2)],
~~characterised in that,~~ and wherein

the evaluation logic [(3)] is supplied with voltage by ~~means of~~ the at
least one input-side signal terminal [(1, 2)].

2. (Currently amended) Interface according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that,~~
wherein,

the evaluation logic [(3)] is configured to at least partially switch off a connected
lamp operating device [(13)].

3. (Currently amended) Interface according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that,~~

wherein,

the evaluation logic $[(3)]$ is configured to transmit by means of the electrical isolation element $[(4)]$ signals or commands to the connected lamp operating device ~~(13) by means of which this device~~ so that the lamp operating device is separable from the mains voltage $[(15)]$.

4. (Currently amended) Interface according to claim 2 ~~or 3, characterized in~~

~~that,~~ wherein,

the lamp operating device $[(13)]$ is separable from the mains by means of a relay or an optocoupler controlled triac.

5. (Currently amended) Interface according to ~~any preceding claim,~~

~~characterized in that,~~ claim 1, wherein,

the evaluation logic $[(13)]$ is configured to transmit setting values to ~~[[the]] a connected lamp operating device (13) by means of the same and/or by means of~~ utilizing a separate electrical isolation element $[(4)]$.

6. (Currently amended) Interface according to ~~any preceding claim,~~

~~characterized in that,~~ claim 1, wherein,

the electrical isolation element $[(4)]$ is configured also to transmit, in bi-directional manner, signals from a connected lamp operating device $[(13)]$ to the input-side terminals and, if applicable, to a bus connected thereto.

7. (Currently amended) Interface according to ~~any preceding claim,~~
~~characterized in that,~~ claim 1, wherein,

in $[(the)]$ an idle condition, in which no signals are transmitted, a high level signal is present at the input-side terminals, which signal supplies the evaluation logic $[(3)]$ with energy.

8. (Currently amended) Interface according ~~any of claims 1 to 6,~~
~~characterized in that,~~ to claim 1, wherein,

in the idle condition, in which no signals are transmitted, there is present at the input-side terminals a low level signal, and the evaluation logic $[(3)]$ can be activated by means of a change to a high level signal.

9. (Currently amended) Interface for a lamp operating device, ~~having~~
comprising,

$[-]$ at least one input-side signal terminal $[(1, 2)]$ for the connection of a bus line or for connection with a button or switch, and

[[-]] an evaluation logic [[(3)]] for the processing of signals present at the at least one input-side terminal [[(1, 2)]] and for the generation of output-side signals for the control of the lamp operating device (3), ~~characterized in that,~~ wherein,

the evaluation logic [[(3)]] has a voltage supply independent of the mains voltage supply of the lamp operating device [[(13)]].

10. (Currently amended) Interface according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that,~~ wherein,

the evaluation logic [[(3)]] is supplied with voltage by means of the at least one input-side signal terminal [[(1, 2)]].

11. (Currently amended) ~~Lamp operating device, in particular A ballast for a fluorescent tube, having an interface [[(12)]] in accordance with any preceding claim~~ claim 1.

12. (Currently amended) Method for the control of a lamp operating device via an interface [[(12)]], ~~having~~ comprising the following steps:

[[-]] application of bus signals or button/switch signals to at least one input-side terminal [[(1, 2)]] of the interface [[(12)]],

[[-]] processing of signals present at the input-side terminal and generation of output-side signals for the control of the lamp operating device [[(13)]], and thereupon

[-] transmission of the processed control signals by means of an electrical isolation element [(4)] to the lamp operating device [(13)], ~~characterized in that,~~
wherein,

the voltage supply for the processing of the signals present at the input-side terminal and for the generation of the output-side signals for the control of the lamp operating device [(13)] is effected via the at least one input-side signal terminal [(1,2)].

13. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that,~~
wherein,

by means of the electrical isolation element [(4)] signals or commands are transmitted to the connected lamp operating device [(13)], ~~by means of which this device so~~
that the lamp operating device is separated from the mains voltage [(15)].

14. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that,~~
wherein,

the lamp operating device [(13)] is separated from the mains by means of a relay or an optocoupler controlled triac.

15. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims 12 to 14,~~
~~characterized in that~~ claim 12, wherein,

by means of the electrical isolation element [(4)] setting values are transmitted to the connected lamp operating device [(13)].

16. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims 12 to 15~~,
~~characterized in that~~ claim 12, wherein,

signals are transmitted from a connected lamp operating device $[(13)]$ to
the input-side terminals $[(1, 2)]$ and, if applicable, to a bus connected thereto.

17. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims 12 to 16~~,
~~characterized in that~~ claim 12, wherein,

in $[[the]]$ an idle condition, in which no signals are transmitted, a high
level signal is present at the input-side terminals $[(1, 2)]$, which signal supplies the evaluation
logic $[(3)]$ with energy.

18. (Currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims 12 to 16~~,
~~characterized in that~~ claim 12, wherein,

in $[[the]]$ an idle condition, in which no signals are transmitted, a low level
signal is present at the input-side terminals $[(1, 2)]$ and the evaluation logic $[(3)]$ is activated
by means of a change to a high level signal.